

**§ 51.28 Identity of applicant.**

(a) If the applicant is not personally known to the official receiving the application he or she shall establish his or her identity by the submission of a previous passport, other identifying documents or by an identifying witness.

(b) If an applicant submits an application under the provisions of paragraph (c) of § 51.21 he or she must submit a prior passport with his or her application.

(c) Any official receiving an application for a passport or any Passport Issuing Office may require such additional evidence of identity as may be deemed necessary.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[33 FR 12043, Aug. 24, 1968, as amended at SD-165, 46 FR 2343, Jan. 9, 1981; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

**§ 51.30 Persons unacceptable as witnesses.**

The passport issuing office will not accept as witness to a passport application a person who has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with executing the application or obtaining the passport.

**§ 51.31 Affidavit of identifying witness.**

(a) An identifying witness shall execute an affidavit stating: That he or she resides at a specific address; that he or she knows or has reason to believe that the applicant is a citizen of the United States; the basis of his or her knowledge concerning the applicant; and that the information set out in his or her affidavit is true to the best of his or her knowledge and belief.

(b) If the witness has a U.S. passport, he or she shall state the place of issue and, if possible, the number and approximate date of issue.

(c) The identifying witness shall subscribe to his or her statement before the same person who took the passport application.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926)

[31 FR 13540, Oct. 20, 1966, as amended at 31 FR 14522, Nov. 11, 1966; 49 FR 16989, Apr. 23, 1984]

**§ 51.32 Passport amendments.**

Except for the convenience of the U.S. Government, no passport will be amended.

[70 FR 53924, Sept. 13, 2005]

**§ 51.33 Release of passport information.**

Information in passport files is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act. Release of this information may be requested in accordance with the implementing regulations set forth in Subchapter R, Part 171 or Part 172 of this title.

(22 U.S.C. 2658 and 3926; 5 U.S.C. 552, 552a)

[61 FR 29940, June 13, 1996]

**Subpart C—Evidence of U.S. Citizenship or Nationality****§ 51.40 Burden of proof.**

The applicant has the burden of proving that he or she is a national of the United States.

[66 FR 29907, June 4, 2001]

**§ 51.41 Documentary evidence.**

Every application shall be accompanied by evidence of the U.S. nationality of the applicant.

[66 FR 29907, June 4, 2001]

**§ 51.43 Persons born in the United States applying for a passport for the first time.**

(a) *Primary evidence of birth in the United States.* A person born in the United States in a place where official records of birth were kept at the time of his or her birth shall submit with the application for a passport a birth certificate under the seal of the official custodian of birth records. To be acceptable, a certificate must show the full name of the applicant place and date of birth, and that the record thereof was recorded at the time of birth or shortly thereafter.

(b) *Secondary evidence of birth in the United States.* If the applicant cannot submit primary evidence of birth, he or she shall submit the best obtainable secondary evidence. If a person was born at a place in the United States